

Annual Report

The Annual Report of Toc H
for the year ended 31 March 1979
to be presented at the Central Council
meeting on 3 November 1979



Her Majesty The Queen Mother arrives for the official opening of Crawley's Clayton House in July 1978.

Photo: Crawley & District Observer

From the Chairman

An Annual Report provides the opportunity for one both to reflect and to dream. In reading this present report and in reflecting upon it, one cannot but be moved by the tremendous variety of activities, the great efforts to keep abreast of modern developments, the attempts to encourage sound financial stewardship and above all by the enthusiasm and forward thinking that is being engendered in many ways.

We speak of Toc H as a family and therefore in applauding the new expressions and new work with young people, let us not forget the valuable and worthwhile contributions made by the well established branches.

During the past year, attendance at meetings of the CEC and its sub-committees together with visiting the Staff Conference and sharing in the deliberations of the Management Team have enabled me to understand and to appreciate more the organisation and work that is faithfully carried on both at Central and Regional levels.

In my opening sentence I suggested that as well as reflecting on the achievements of the past year we should take time to dream – to

ponder on some of the likely happenings in the near future – the Festival of 1980, the growth and development of residential work in our present centres and in new 'Community Houses' and generally the extension of our activities. In so doing we shall, I hope, realise afresh the excitement of membership, the desire to pass on this infectious gaiety and to translate our hopes and aspirations into action since in the words of Gerrard Winstanley, a Cromwellian supporter: 'Action is the life of all and if thou dost not act, thou doest nothing'.

Present day society with all its sophistication will still respond to the challenge of Toc H provided as members we are convinced of our purpose, committed in ourselves, and above all courageous. In his rectorial address to the students of St Andrew's University in 1922 on the subject of Courage, J M Barrie had this to say: 'There are glorious years lying ahead of you if you choose to make them glorious. God's in his heaven still. So forward brave hearts. To what adventures I cannot tell but I know that your God is watching to see whether you are adventurous'.

Rose M Radford

In the Regions



The Mid-Eastern Region is large, but we try to regard this as a challenge — to create a feeling of 'family' and to help our Central Councillors fulfil their key role as communicators. We benefit by our diversity, which is reflected in the activities undertaken, both by branches and through projects — the two happily overlapping.

In Colne/Orwell and Constable Districts, the branches co-operated in taking out residents at Hamilton Lodge Home for mentally handicapped men during a holiday week. At Cropston, Anstey branch assisted volunteers who were helping at a Holiday Home for elderly people run by Leicester Guild of the Physically Handicapped. During a strenuous 'Shovel and Pick' project at Geddington, local members nearly swamped the volunteers by their numbers and enthusiasm during an open evening.

Involvement with Intermediate Treatment work is building up, and interest in community living continues to grow — both in projects at Hengrave Hall and Little Gidding, and in the continuing plans of a group of East Anglian members to launch a Community with no boundaries other than a basic Christian life style.

Northants Area, despite snow, managed to organise an inter-branch quiz called 'Fancy That'. Other leisure activities included 'Ducks and Dandelions' at Horstead, 'Camera in the Cotswolds', and a 'Pensioners' Playtime' at Rushden in co-operation with the Salvation Army.

Work with handicapped and lonely friends included: outings arranged by Anstey, Peterborough Men and by Derby Toc H Disabled Fellowship; 'Eyes and Ears' at Gorleston-by-Sea, for blind/deaf people; and holidays for mentally handicapped people at Colsterdale and Port Penrhyn.

One volunteer, Arend Hoogervorst, whose visit to South Africa in 1976 was sponsored by Northants District, returned to work for Toc H there. A request to take part in a project was received from a young man who had been a volunteer the year before from Borstal, and he was accepted with pleasure. A job was found for another volunteer when he left Borstal.

'Through the Eyes of Others' was the fair minded theme of an Area Day, with outside speakers.

Finances improved - helped by a sponsored walk by Derrick Cole, Westwood Men, along the Pennine Way, which raised £600 for Toc H and two other charities.

Our three field staff and eight hon staff meet regularly to co-ordinate their work; we have had the additional help of an LTV, Pauline Warner, and we gave employment to another young woman through the Manpower Services Commission, working with a youth group at Leicester.

Toc H featured in the 'Radio Leicester' programme during 'Volunteers' Week' and publicity continued at the Country Shows and the Spalding Tulip Parade.

Circulation of 'Mid-Eastern' grew, District members all receiving a copy. The Regional Centre is a vital part of our organisation and Mary Carmichael fulfils the demanding job of Regional Secretary.

The REC tried to see 'through a glass darkly' and prepared a Five Year Plan, underlining the basic principles of Toc H and emphasising the need to find and encourage leadership. If we manage to generate more light than heat, we must also provide opportunities for the next generation to accept that 'light' which symbolises Toc H.



A scene at Melton Mowbray's annual gala in which Toc H have a regular role.



During the past year the Executive of the Region, as instructed by Regional Council, has continued to give serious thought and discussion as to the best method of adapting the Regional structure to fit the needs and circumstances of the Region. Clearly emerging is the importance of the District and its Executive, and their consequent responsibility for the health and standard of the branches.

Ageing membership and lack of extension are general problems. Whilst the North have seven or eight new groups recognised, there is concern about lack of opportunity to pass on the Toc H message to younger people.

Nevertheless there is much activity : in Tyne & Wear, Alexandra Rose Days, children's holidays at Ryton Centre, also the purchase of a Donington bungalow to supplement the Jimmy Savile caravans. Hild, recovering from the tragic loss of leaders, have organised outings for elderly, handicapped and housebound in addition to supporting the activities of other Districts. In Darlington District, the Talking Newspaper is not only a valuable project, but a likely means of extension. Guisborough Joint Branch have struck a new note on Teeside with a Heart and Stroke Club and a Drama Group for intermediate care children. Ayresome Group by their example and encouragement are hoping to see a Community Centre in their neighbourhood, built by the Local Authority.

In Yorkshire, extension is mainly centred on youth, with four 'TAG' Groups and a possible two more; there is no doubt that the Toc H message is 'getting across' — one has only to be in their company to realise this, be heartened and excited by it. Otherwise extension is regrettably lacking, although South Yorkshire have gained members from the Community Library Service, of which there are three schemes operating. Rotherham are running four weekend projects for younger disabled. There have been three railway projects — included among the

volunteers in one was Tony Reade, the Chairman of Toc H Australia. Leeds have again organised their Garden Party and there has been another Buttershaw Playscheme. In Huddersfield, the Community Care and Concern Committee and TAG Group have again taken children for weekends to Bridlington, with the help of Bridlington Toc H, and on a one day outing. Richard and Maggie Jackson have repeated their week at

Colsterdale for mentally handicapped children. The Tea Club for the elderly continues. The District have sponsored, through Bill Bains, the formation of a club for stroke patients and families. Care for elderly, handicapped and residents of Cheshire Homes is shown by numerous activities of branches and individuals throughout the Districts. On the coast, Eastfield Group continue their care for children. To misquote:

'So much is being done by so few – much more could be done by so many more'

'If you think it worthwhile, tell others – if not start doing something about it'.

'Ask not what Toc H can do for you but rather what you can do for Toc H'.



Branches in the Region have shown increasing willingness to test the Regional theme of Communication, Confidence and Commitment launched in the 1977 report. There has been news of events which fit into the picture quite clearly, suggesting that new thought and action is being directed towards events which encourage a greater awareness of the total Toc H life. There has been a new interest in publications and conferences have indicated a willingness to discuss fully the weakness in branch life deriving from lack of confidence, communication etc. An instance this year is the Bangor Summer School which takes as its theme for three speakers the 'three C' challenge.

The problem of covering large tracts of country with three over strained members of staff is also more apparent and

discussion is taking place to prepare a more satisfactory solution for staff geographical responsibilities and job priorities.

A useful exercise in pinpointing communication needs at different decision making levels and implementing a Regional information service for local leaders and potential leaders is in progress.

There has to be a challenge in Toc H, both for members and followers, and this means that the best interpreters of community life in our branches must be ever ready to 'poke' life into neighbourhood affairs. This is the real job of leaders in Toc H and we should all be working more actively for a Movement which gets its pleasures and experiences from a working, rather than simply a talking, fellowship.

Enthusiastic attempts are being made by branches in North Wales and the Marches to quicken family life and a number of well attended social occasions were arranged. In Rhyl a series of guest nights resulted in a firm following of the branch, with some younger people taking an interest. These evenings also initiated a link-up between Scouting and Gwynedd District camp committee. In Wem a well organised 'Know your Town' exhibition drew large crowds and many enquiries. New members joined the branch following the exhibition. A different

type of evening occurred in Mold where the branch invited a speaker on humour to their birthday night. Toc H started to learn about laughter all over again!

Other successful exhibitions were held in the Stockport Technical College and the Arndale Centre in Manchester.

Weekend projects have continued to attract a lot of younger people and tasks were carried out in Llanberis, Prestatyn, Mold and Wrexham.

The young branches in Warrington have been undertaking a wide range of extremely valuable work in their community, particularly with the mentally and physically handicapped and deprived children.

Most of this work has been made possible by the opening of a Toc H centre in Warrington which has helped to keep pace with the growing expansion there. The centre employs a Long Term Volunteer and until recently employed five girls through the Manpower Services Commission who have now been found full time employment with various local companies.

As the Warrington District is a brand new venture, it has needed to raise a lot of money to further its own development and congratulations should be given to all these new members who have worked hard to build up their District.



Clwyd youth projects have included help of many kinds in the Coed Du Hospital. Here,

Peter Evans helps Welsh International goalkeeper Dai Davies with a raffle.



The Leyland play scheme – in which Toc H is regularly involved – attracted more than 1,600 children each day!

Photo: Aled Oldfield

Photo: Alan Daniels



Regionalisation is now over five years old. It is time to take stock of the position, to measure its successes or failures and to review the direction in which we are heading, and that is what we are doing. We have got a sense of unity but there is more potential for the future, and the Executive will take an in-depth study of its resources and the possibilities of future extension.

Our fledgling group of Magpies is growing quietly and is spreading its wings to other areas where they are encouraging other young people to build their own nests.

The 1978 projects were successful and produced a number of potential members who are gathering in groups around the Region and all 1979 projects are full. These projects are encouraging branches



Photo: Simon N Rowley

Twelve volunteers gave a holiday to 12 physically handicapped children at Minstead Lodge in the New Forest.

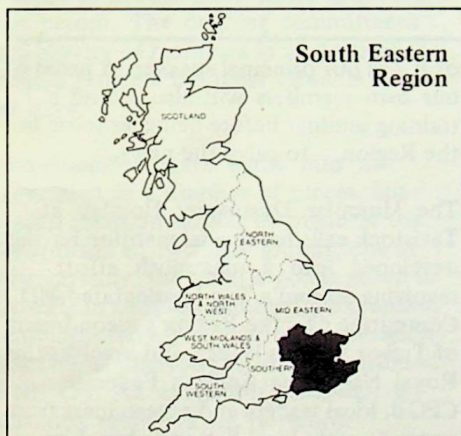
to realise their potential and co-operate in the support work needed. In Chippenham District a group of young people have taken the name of 'Chipmunks' — will one of the groups in Hampshire call themselves 'Hamsters'? What's in a name? Never mind the titles, it is encouraging that this energy and enthusiasm abound. These members are the product of successful projects, encouragement of staff and help of branch members. This gives us hope for the future.

We look forward to the 1980 Festival and hope it will provide a springboard from which we can leap to new heights. A major concern for the Regional Forum and for some branches is the question of unemployment and young people.

This year we have had the additional help of Rachel Large as a Long Term Volunteer and when her term ends we shall seek a successor or maybe two.

Financially, we still have many enthusiastic branches who have done even better than last year. The effort used in giving us these assets must now be harnessed to add to our resources by increased membership so that the future of Toc H in the Region is secure.

We are grateful for all the efforts of staff and members in the Region in the past year and trust that with a new Executive, a new Chairman and all the new and potential membership we shall go into the 80s with renewed vigour and strength.



During the year we reluctantly said farewell to Penny Molyneux and Cheryl Wood as well as to Jeff Bird who left Mark 3 to return to his native New Zealand. In turn we welcomed Mike Giddings who replaced Jeff Bird as Warden of Mark 3. Bob Mills transferred from the Croydon Centre to Essex which now has the full time services of a member of staff for the first time for some years. The other field staff members, John Burgess (Beds and Herts), the Rev M B Perkins (Kent), the Rev Colin Rudd (Milton Keynes), the Rev Edgar Wallace (Sussex and Surrey), have been kept more than fully occupied and much that is useful and even exciting is developing from their work, some details

of which are given below. We are fortunate in our field staff to whom we are grateful for their dedication to the work of Toc H which so often results in effort well above the call of duty.

The 'communication centre' — Regional office — is cheerfully and willingly served by Barbara Ferryman and Connie Pring whose voices on the telephone are well known to so many in the Region. Although not strictly 'Regional staff' we must mention Peter East at Talbot House, Trinity Square, who during the year was honoured by the award of the MBE. This thoroughly deserved award was in recognition of his work in the furtherance of good race relations in the London area and particularly his work at and through the Bangladeshi Centre, Notting Hill.

One of the highlights of the year was undoubtedly the opening by the Queen Mother in July 1978 of Clayton House, Crawley, named in memory of Tubby Clayton. Clayton House is a Toc H residential centre, the concept being developed and brought to fruition by local initiative and the hard work and generosity of many people and organisations in the Crawley area, ably led by Edgar Wallace. The house provides a caring family environment for mainly young people and already has a waiting

list. It also provides a focal point for a multitude of activities including a 24 hour 'Telephone Aid' service for those in physical or mental distress. The Toc H influence of Clayton House is spreading rapidly beyond the confines of Crawley into all facets of the community in Sussex and indeed elsewhere.

A further significant development was the organisation by Shooters Hill District, with the support of 'Polly' Perkins, of a 'Wishing Well' week at Crayford in the London Borough of Bexley during April 1978. With the help of the Kent Toc H weekend project volunteers, over 3,000 homes were circulated with leaflets and 'wishing' sheets in which residents indicated up to three wishes each relating to their community.

The response was good and the wishing sheets when analysed covered 16 categories of local activity. The District Executive through its Action Group presented a report to a public meeting in June 1978 and subsequently local people formed themselves into the Cray Action Group which meets regularly, and, supported by the Toc H Shooters Hill District Action Group, has sought out and met a number of local needs.

A direct result of the contacts made with



Adventure Playground: Dollis Valley (Herts) Project.

Toc H during the exercise was the formation of a new Toc H Group – the Project Group Thameside – which shows every sign of effective development. The real significance is that the successful outcome of the exercise demonstrates that a small Toc H District (just four branches) by initiative and perseverance can make a real contribution to an impact on the community in which it lives quite disproportionate to the size of its membership.

Beds, Bucks and Herts Districts in co-operation pioneered Toc H Families Week at Port Penrhyn which proved so successful that similar 'weeks' will



North London District's Easter 1978 holiday at Port Penrhyn for children of one parent families.

undoubtedly take place as regular events. Another worthwhile project organised by these Districts was the organisation of 4 'away' weekends for a total of about 80 young Bangladeshis from the East End, giving them the opportunity to enjoy the countryside and to meet local Toc H members and others.

Essex as always has been forging ahead with further expansion of the 'Flashing Lights' scheme providing a sense of security for the elderly and disabled.

The Marks continued in the work they have been performing in some cases for over half a century. Community work

centred on the Marks has been greatly extended during the year and efforts have been made with some success to expand the daytime use of the houses. Only one London Mark now has a staff warden (Mark 3, Hackney) and our thanks are due to the honorary wardens who perform their difficult task with such goodwill and application.

Much that is new and exciting developed in the Region during the year and it is heartening that so many younger people have become interested and involved in the work of Toc H as it is in them that the future of our work lies.



South Western Region

Our daily lives in the South West have been influenced by chips for generations – granite chips, wood chips, fruit chips, fish and chips, and now, the silicon chip. We have, therefore, set ourselves the task of learning something about the silicon chip and, more especially, its probable effect on our day to day living. We feel that our members should be able to warn and enlighten folk as they go about their daily tasks. We plan to launch our campaign at the Regional Conference at Babbacombe in October and will welcome Edgar Boyes, Vice-Principal of Luton Industrial College and formerly

of ICI as our principal speaker. A panel of our own members will also attend a training seminar before being let loose in the Region – to carry the news.

The Muscular Dystrophy Holiday at Tavistock calls for special mention having developed into a mammoth effort revolving around a Toc H orientated MD Committee plus the Region's secondment of Trevor Sizer as leader, and involves the Royal Navy, Sea Angler's Federation, CEEB, local traders and entertainers from opera to rock, local fish and chip shop – yes, chips again – local farmers, young Methodist folk and others too numerous to list here. Now rumours trickle through that Glastonbury & Street Joint Branch plan to become an Emergency Task Force and a 'carrier' is spreading the Toc H disease in the environs of Weston-super-Mare.

Our Regional PHAB Course this year was a greater success than ever. Volunteers want to come again and most rewarding signs of Toc H influence are becoming evident.



A trip to a model railway exhibition during the Muscular Dystrophy Holiday, Tavistock.

The Central Council and CEC having focussed our attention on the 1980 Festival, have already helped us to move more decisively towards our silicon chip effort. Our Councillors have been charged with the task of challenging their branches to do their own thing as well and already, mumblings from deepest Cornwall indicate a brand new major project in the offing — to say more now would only reduce their impact.

A review in March showed our member-

ship to be down a little but we are much encouraged by new members in the Torquay Joint Branch formed last year and some 19 Budleigh Salterton Action plus members have been initiated as the group takes on branch status. Nailsea Women, having met regularly are spreading their net and are about to become a Group.

A brief tribute now to the unsung, undaunted editor of the Great Western, that readable, amusing, serious and

typically Toc H periodical we share with Southern Region. It is good to share like this and others too could have a nibble of this plum, if they wished. Thank you to the print room at Wendover.

Without doubt we are moving, and moving forward, but we still fail often to pull in others to move along with us. Do we not like people enough? Young Deborah, aged 10, was right when she said 'Love is hard to do to people you don't particularly like.'



The year under review has been one of steady work and growth, rather than of high drama. There have been many good things to report, and we are conscious that for every event or development mentioned, there are many others equally worthy of the attention which space will not permit. The ongoing commitment and loyalty of members in all parts of the Region remains the most valuable asset we have.

New members have come into the Movement in a number of places, but special mention should be made of the recognition of two new groups, one at Abergavenny, the other a young group in Cardiff. In addition, successful expansion campaigns have been held at Leamington Spa (W), Metherton (M) and Llandrindod Wells (J). An extension campaign is currently under way in Hereford.

Financially, it has been a very successful year, and for the first time since its inception, the Region was 'in the black' at the end of the financial year. Although this was due in part to a reduction in the staff complement, it was also due to a significant increase in membership giving, and a number of ambitious 'special efforts'. These are too numerous to list, but mention must be made of those who manned eight Alexandra Rose Day collections, a large coffee morning in Handsworth, a District sponsored walk in Gwent, and the 'Saturday Spectacular' in Gloucester during which a team of eight schoolboys climbed Mount Everest on scaffolding.

The Regional Executive Committee has been concerned to increase the amount of membership training opportunities. While they are conscious of the need for more, during the year there have been training weekends at Port Penrhyn and Dor Knap, and a training day at Ross-on-Wye. The Regional Bulletin, produced at the Regional Office, has also proved a valuable training medium, as have visits to branches made by members of the REC and staff.

The Region ran a successful projects season in 1978, and new projects were held at Merthyr Tydfil and in Gloucester, while the Stourbridge branches organised a successful camp for local children at Port Penrhyn. The number of project volunteers recruited from within the Region rose from 55 in 1977 to 84 in 1978, which we see as a most encouraging development.

During the coming year it is anticipated that the 'Trinity Centre' will open in Birmingham. This is a converted old church, which will be a centre and shelter for homeless men in the city. Although an entirely separate charity from Toc H, members are involved in this project, and in the raising of the £400,000 required. Moreover, it is a matter of record that this will be the culmination of work started over ten years ago when a handful of Birmingham members launched a 'soup run' for the homeless.

During the year the Swansea West Branch formally opened their 'scented garden for the blind' and the occasion was graced by the presence of the local MP and George Barnett (representing Toc H Headquarters) as well as many members from branches in West Wales.

During the summer we were pleased to welcome members of the Central Executive Committee who held a meeting in Birmingham. They visited local branches on the preceding night, and the next day representatives from all parts of the Region gathered in Birmingham to join in the discussions.

Finally, with justifiable pride, we record

that during the year Marjorie Berry (our Regional Chairman) was made a Vice-President of Toc H, Agnes Cook (a member of our Regional Executive) was made a Trustee of Toc H, and in December the Central Executive Committee elected Rose Radford (our Regional Secretary) to be its Chairman.



The Gloucester Projects Group mounted a series of working weekends at Leckhampton Court — a derelict medieval building recently acquired by the Sue Ryder Foundation.



Canal Restoration Weekend, Stroud. The ultimate aim of the local canal society is to create a linear water park.

Photo: Leslie Sculfor



Scottish Region

In the autumn our Chairman, Jimmy Campbell, emigrated to the benefit of the North West Region.

Two editions of our Regional Newsletter were published, in December and March. The Newsletter was distributed through Districts for all members in the Region.

Our Annual Conference, held at the Pollock Hall of Residence, University of Edinburgh, was on 'Toc H and Christianity'. Padre Jack Millar might have been 100 yards away at the Commonwealth Pool as he was thrown in at the deep end, having to deputize for the main speaker. He asked us to ask ourselves what Toc H was all about. Were we a Christian Movement and if so what were the implications for members and those contemplating membership? Was the Main Resolution just words, words, words, and was it still relevant? There was the inevitable explosion. The Padre hopes that the dust has not yet settled.

The major task of staff was to support existing branches and extension from these bases. The work is already showing its value. Tayforth District Branch was formed. In December a new, mixed age group was registered in Buckie and the Glenrothes Branch received their Lamp. A small group was formed in Kirkcaldy. From Glenrothes work began on



Photo: Gordon Macrae

The Hansel Village Project. Ultimately, this village will sustain a community of 300 mentally handicapped boys and girls. (See Point Three, March 1979).

extension into Leslie and Dalgetty Bay. two further groups are in prospect specifically to work with the frail elderly and the housebound.

Two playschemes in Ayr, at Whitlotts and at Dalmilling, involved Gordon Macrae and 27 volunteers from five different countries. They were assisted by the local Community Education Department. Nearby at the Hansel Village, Symington, a project with handicapped young people engaged 22 volunteers and four 18 year old Borstal trainees with their PTI. A highlight was a clamber inside Concorde and a Jumbo jet newly arrived at Prestwick Airport from Chicago. The Glenrothes Sunny Summer Show was featured in an exhibition in London.

Two work experience trainees were employed in Glenrothes for a year.

Lilian Ayres spoke about Toc H in a short

interview on BBC TV and Lilian and Gordon shared a part of the Scottish Community Service Forum stand at the 'Careers into the 1980s' Exhibition at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. Thousands of youngsters, parents and teachers passed through the Hall during the four days of the exhibition.

Tom Kennedy led a party of a dozen on his annual September pilgrimage to Ypres and the Somme area.

There has been a pleasing, if small, improvement in the Region's finances.

A combined effort by the Border Branches at a Sale of Work in Galashiels raised the £500 to pay for the Toc H Caravan on a site at Spittal.

The increased attendances at branch meetings lets us look forward to the coming years with gentle optimism.

At the Centre

Staff Changes

Staff changes were fewer during this year than in many years, but an outstanding one was the retirement in July 1978 of A S 'Skegg' Blanchard from Headquarters after 32 years service. He was succeeded in the Despatch Department by C W 'Bill' Taylor. Jeff Bird left Mark 3 (Hackney) to return to New Zealand, and after a temporary period ably filled by Geoff Taylor, was succeeded by Mike Giddings. The SE Regional Staff was also depleted by the loss of Mrs Penny Molyneux and Mrs Cheryl Wood. Ged Bates left the West Mids and S Wales Regional Staff to take up an appointment with the Birmingham Probation Service, and the Rev Phillip Bishop left his part time appointment in the North Eastern Region to become a full time Industrial Chaplain but accepted appointment as an Hon Area Padre within the same Region. Tommy and Dorothy Trinder retired after 16 years of devoted service at Dor Knap, and we welcomed David and Clare Currant as their replacements. Guy Pullen left Talbot House, Trinity Square, in May 1978, to take up an appointment with 'Help the Aged' in Merseyside, whilst Bob Mills transferred from the Croydon Centre to a field staff appointment based in Essex.

Our good wishes go to all of them either in retirement or in their new spheres of service.

Communications

Most Regions have shown concern during the year about the quality of their internal communications patterns and have increased their efforts to improve

them. Some are producing Regional news magazines of high standard; at least one Regional chairman is now holding regular meetings of District chairmen; members of Headquarters Management Team continue to travel widely to share their thinking with as many members as possible.

The Public Relations Advisory Group (PRAG) has been meeting twice a year to discuss all aspects of communication, both within the Movement and between the Movement and the public and to decide the scale of the annual budget. Their contribution during the year has been valuable in all these fields.

'Topic on Tape' continues to grow in popularity and now has almost 300 subscribers — mainly branches. This year — without any price increase — the scheme has operated for the first time without subsidy and, indeed, finished the financial year with a small surplus.

In 1978, we agreed to participate with 20 other voluntary bodies in the 'Find a Friend Week'. The results were disappointing since the scheme failed to rouse general enthusiasm. For example, only one branch in every six returned completed questionnaires. This is a pity because it was a genuine national attempt to meet and combat loneliness. We intend to try again this year, since the main costs are borne by the sponsoring magazine and because we believe we have learned some lessons from last year's operation. A number of branches did what they were invited to do and had some success.

For the second year running, publicity expenditure was within the reduced budgeted figure. This result was *not* because less was done. It was achieved almost entirely by PRAG's realistic budgeting and by care in eliminating waste.

Point Three's circulation figures have held during the year. Print, paper and circulation economies have enabled us to get through another year without increasing the selling price.

Winant and Clayton Volunteers



A Winant volunteer (Adam Platt) helps a disabled youngster on the climbers' training wall at the London Federation of Boys' Clubs Activity Centre.

This was a difficult year on both sides of the Atlantic. The problems on the American side have been very satisfactorily resolved: the St Bartholemew Community Club, New York, has taken over the day to day running of that side of the operation. The Winant and Clayton Volunteers in the USA will continue as an independent body with the facilities and expertise of the club at their disposal and the continuing support of former Winant Volunteers. This is a particularly happy arrangement as it will strengthen the links already established between St Bartholemew's Church and All Hallows Church. We look forward to meeting our new American friends; several will be visiting London during 1979.

The 1978 Winant and Clayton groups fully lived up to the high standards set by their predecessors. New ways of converting continued interest in the scheme into practical involvement are always being sought.

The Old House

The year has been one of steady progress. Numbers of people staying in the Old House have continued to rise, the ratio of 'bed nights' over the last three years being 951 in 1976, 822 in 1977 (when the house was only open from June onwards because of the rebuilding work) and 1,198 in 1978. An encouraging trend during the last year has been the increase in visitors outside Toc H.

Hon wardens from England were not appointed during the summer months of 1978, except during the housekeeper's holiday period, when Mr and Mrs Harold Burgess kindly deputised.

Gifts to the Old House during the year have included books from Mr John Giles and the Harvey Grammar School, a bark picture of an Australian rural scene from Toc H Queensland, and a beautiful chandelier from our Belgian friends.

Many young people from Poperinge visited England during the summer months, some taking part in Toc H projects and others staying with families in different parts of the country as a result of friendships made with them by Toc H parties visiting Poperinge. A group of Belgian students and a party of teachers and pupils from a Poperinge school made Prideaux House, Hackney, their base during an Easter visit to London.

The 'Friends of the Old House' held a reunion on Tower Hill in November, when Mrs Gwen Tett was presented with a cheque upon her retirement as Hon Secretary of the 'Friends', a task which she has carried out cheerfully and conscientiously since their formation 25 years ago. Her successor is Mrs Doris Longley from Wallasey, Cheshire.

In December, the Rev Colin Rudd, Toc H staff, led a World Chain of Light Service in the Upper Room and a 12 hour vigil, assisted by the Rev Tim Dugdale, OBE, Vicar of Ghent and Ieper, and Pastor De Brie from St John's Church, Poperinge. The Dean of Poperinge and staff of St Stanislas College and the RMS school were among the 120 others from the town who joined in these devotions and in the social hour afterwards.

Members of the 'Kitcheners' youth group spent Christmas Day and Boxing Day visiting Poperinge's old folk in their homes. We look forward to having a good number of the 'Kitcheners' with us at 'Dor Knap' in July for the International Weekend.

Alison House

The House was once more well used over the year apart from during January and February 1979. Bookings included a return of the old people from the Birmingham tower blocks and a party sponsored by the Warrington Multiple Sclerosis Society.

The Plessey Company ran two more junior management courses and the Scout Association ran three weekend courses for Group Leaders and Commissioners.

Music, Poetry and Painting featured

prominently this year with visits from a youth orchestra, a school band, a school choir and a chamber music group. The 'Accent on Poetry' weekend, the Nottingham Society of Artists' weekend and the annual Painting Week were all agreed successes.

The highlight of the year was the Allison House 10th Anniversary celebration on 15 April 1978 which was opened by the Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire. Some 300 Toc H people gathered from neighbouring counties.

Well supported and enjoyed were the 9 holiday weeks as were the house parties arranged for Christmas (for the lonely) and Easter.

Dor Knap

Bad winter weather did force odd cancelled weekend bookings but our average party was 23 guests.

The 'Friends of Dor Knap', faithful and generous as always, have assured us that their support will continue to be given to Dor Knap's successor after our vacation of these premises.

The highlight of the year under review was undoubtedly the Cotswold Festival when 1,250 folk visited the House, enjoyed the entertainment provided, participated in the service of Holy Communion and found fellowship and friendship.

Another milestone was reached when, at the end of January, Tommy and Dorothy Trinder retired from their positions as Warden and Housekeeper, after 16 years of faithful service. Snow forced the cancellation of the party arranged to enable people to pay tribute to the couple whose love and devotion, as well as unique brand of humour, have stamped themselves indelibly on the annals of the House and in the hearts of its visitors.



Part of the crowd at Dor Knap's last Cotswold Festival (August, 1978)

Our New Year began with the welcome to David and Clare Currant who are to be our new Warden and Housekeeper. Through them and their ministry of service we are confident that our final year in this house will be a happy one and we look forward together to our future in the new house.

Port Penrhyn

The Adventure Centre continues to get busier as each month passes. Groups are now booking well in advance to be sure of their places the following year.

The incredible mixture of people is a constant feature and also the curious band of leaders who seem to cope with programmes as varied as industrial trainees on outdoor pursuit courses and ecumenical conferences of young people from the Leicester and Liverpool Dioceses. There has also been a marked increase in the amount of work done with school parties, both primary and secondary, and a movement to booking for a full week rather than a weekend.

This year has seen the appointment of Duncan Reed as a Long Term Volunteer to assist at the Centre. Duncan leaves us in August but he can be sure that his efforts here have played a significant part in the development of the Centre and are most appreciated. Our thanks are also due to Stokeheath Borstal for all the efforts made on our behalf. Work camps from the Borstal are an invaluable help with the maintenance of the Centre. The 'Friends of Port Penrhyn' continue to support the Centre with useful additions to the equipment. We can only hope that the growth and vitality of Port Penrhyn is an adequate 'thank you' to all those who support us in so many different ways.

Tubby Clayton Fund

During the year donations and interest received amounted to £3,169, making total receipts since the fund's inception £47,616.

We have continued our support of candidates to the Aston Training Scheme as well as ordination candidates for the Ministry in the Anglican, Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed Churches.

Grants made to 17 candidates for the Ministry and pre-ordination candidates and assistance to All Hallows Church towards the cost of providing clergy accommodation at Crutched Friars together with administration costs amounted to £5,898 during the year, making the total expenditure to date £14,405, leaving a balance in the fund at 31 March 1979 of £33,211.

Services work

BAOR

When the Managing Director of a major retail company reported on the work of the YWCA, his verdict was that their service was not commercial but was invaluable because of the friendly conversation offered at the point of sale. This is the personal way in which all organisations of the Council of Voluntary Welfare Work operate in BAOR which could not be achieved by any body with commercial aims, including NAAFI. In Toc H Clubs trade is brisk so it is a fair assumption that friendship has kept pace.

Looking for a highlight is not difficult, for the World Chain of Light starting in Berlin stands out as a fount of spiritual refreshment for all who came. We are grateful to Frank Dupont for his final 'official' gift to our work.

Playschemes remain popular and 13 are planned this year by YWCA, Church Army and Toc H. Regrettably little progress has been made in the growth of community action beyond the schemes and we are thinking again about forward policy in this respect. We have achieved closer ties with the Army chaplains and at Munster the Senior Chaplain to the Garrison is now running a Church Centre 'down the Club corridor'.

Another good year from Wilf Youngs in the field of secretarial work, involving never ending streams of typing and duplicating. This for the Club, Toc H Southern Region and indeed, anyone who requested help.

Capital remains a problem although we have closed the gap between stocks and cash available to finance them; restricting rent increases to 10% was a 'draw' in the battle against inflation. The replacement of mobile shops and canteens, so vital to the welfare content of our work, is a major problem as such vehicles cost between £5,000 and £15,000 each. The Verden Club which in 1968 was proposed for closure is still losing money and alternative accommodation must, in the long term, be found.

After a most dangerous winter on the German roads, we record our thanks to the club staff who kept the service going. There is a great desire within the BAOR staff to be seen as part of the Toc H family. Distance makes this difficult, but we are convinced that more prayerful and practical links with Regions are a vital part of a positive future programme for Services work.

Domestic staff changes have taken place and this is an area where most concern is being felt. Engaging cooks, part time kitchen help and cleaners becomes more difficult. Full marks and high praise however to those long serving members of the domestic staff who continue to give of their best year after year.

Talbot House Young Seafarers' Residential Club

The year under review was a very busy one and proved in some ways to be difficult too. In one form or another we were dogged by bad luck. The Club remained almost full throughout, however, so finance, though tight, didn't get out of hand.

Our Management Committee worked hard and harmoniously enabling us to balance the books through the expert advice of the Hon Treasurer, Ronnie Goode. It was possible also to have some essential painting done in some of the washrooms and toilets. Much maintenance work needed carrying out, and this was expensive. The two major items which kept recurring were the drains (which constantly had to be unblocked) and the domestic boilers (now many years old). Owing to the exceptionally hard winter, no economies could be made on fuel consumption and oil prices seemed to rise monthly.

In some respects, reporting on the residents annually seems to be repetitive — the usual mixture of young men from all parts of the country and from differing backgrounds. This year however, a great deal of bad luck came their way. There were the usual bouts of illness — coughs, colds and flu. In addition we had two hospital admissions — one as a result of a serious motor cycle accident had a long stay in hospital and in fact was not able to return to us. We kept in touch however.

No major problems arose in the Club. There were niggles, however, when a spate of thefts took place of both cars and scooters: vandalism also occurred on motor cycles parked in the roadway. In December a bomb went off in the vicinity, causing extensive damage to a carpet shop. Nearly all the residents had gone home for Christmas break and fortunately the Club suffered no damage.

Once again the year has seen many of the residents becoming involved in community work. Several have joined Toc H through their involvement with the Toc H Magpies, and are a firm support to

the group's many varied projects. These included painting and decorating jobs and entertaining the mentally handicapped children from a Home outside Winchester, with trips to the Isle of Wight, on a steam railway and to the circus, together with

the annual fireworks and Christmas parties. Many residents helped with the highly successful Magpie Christmas Pantomime which was initially prepared to entertain the Solent Veterans Society. Much of the script for the performance

was written by an ex-resident while at sea and there were extra performances for a home for the elderly, and for the officers and crew on board the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (Sir Galahad).

Overseas

'It is not easy to write the annual report on the work overseas from a London office. From the official reports come only the bare bones of the story — figures, appointments, financial statements, news of branches. It is from the lines between and the personal letters that the real story emerges and these have brought much valuable information during the past year, and have greatly strengthened the bond between the family overseas and at home. More important still have been the personal contacts.' These opening remarks are in no way original, but first appeared in the Annual Report of the Toc H Women's Association some 30 years ago. They seem just as relevant in 1979 as they did in 1949.

Australia

The annual conference was held in January at Belair, near Adelaide. South Australia Area reported that in contrast to the previous year, when jobs were becoming something of a chore, there was now an element of love and joy in the service they were undertaking. Their 'flashing light' project having grown too large for the area to handle alone, is now being administered by a group of organisations, Toc H being represented on the organising committee. Part of the land at Victor Harbour Toc H Camp has been leased to provide a holiday home for handicapped people. In Western Australia, renovations have been made to the Toc H Headquarters to provide premises which are large enough for more entertaining. Five members from Manning Branch have formed a new group and are helping with a project to bring scouts from India to join in Western Australia's

150th year celebrations. New South Wales is considering amalgamating with another area because of its small membership. In Queensland, also, the membership is small, with 74 members in all, but they are greatly strengthened by a large number of regular helpers. Coungeau House continues to be a popular community asset, providing a seaside venue for a variety of youth groups and families recommended by local authority welfare officers. It also provides a meeting place for various community organisations. Members in Queensland have raised £3,000 to purchase a new car for one of their paraplegic members, and they have also erected a carport at his home.

New Zealand

Toc H New Zealand, in an attempt to make better use of their limited manpower and resources, have replaced their National Executive Committee with a small management team of Hon Commissioner (Philip Liner), Chairman (Alistair St John) and Treasurer (Eric Goodhall). Currently there are branches in Auckland, Tawa, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch, Waimate and Dunedin. Nelson has two groups — the long established senior branch and a relatively new but active younger branch of college pupils known as 'The Vikings'. Riccarton Branch, Christchurch, has been responsible for the installation of over 2,500 'Lightline' lamps, and have recently been successful in obtaining a government grant for this project, enabling them to employ a student full time for 2½ months to check all the installations. Dunedin Branch have also been responsible for introducing the 'Lightline' project in their town, with assistance from another service group.

South Africa

1978 proved to be a year of growth and development. New groups were formed in Johannesburg, Kimberley, and in the Cape and Natal area. Oom Vic, the staff member working in the Transkei (now a separate country), has been slowly rebuilding after a sad fall off, although delays are still being experienced in getting the Mhlotseni rural development project off the ground. The National Conference held in September met a new high standard. Staff mini-conferences were held following the Executive in March and the Council in September, which were a great success and are being repeated this year. The financial situation is still precarious, and there is difficulty

in convincing members that fund raising needs to be an integral part of Toc H activity. However, a national appeal made to the business world broke all records, despite the depressed state of the country, and the Toc H Gift Shops donated a record sum to Toc H funds in the last financial year. Since their inception in 1972, the Gift Shops have contributed well over R100,000 (about £50,000) to the various charities they support, in addition to their contribution to Toc H funds.

The 'Tubby Clayton Memorial Fund' set up by Toc H (Southern Africa) amounting to R740 will be used to establish a library for terminal care patients. In September, the death occurred of one of South Africa's best known and loved members, Don McKenzie, founder of the 'Etembeni' T B Settlement at Bothas Hill. As a memorial to him, Toc H Natal are erecting a new gateway to the Settlement. A South African and international appeal is being launched to establish a bursary fund which will enable Zulu students to study for medical, para-medical or social science qualifications. Arend Hoogervorst, one of the team of 12 UK members who visited South Africa in 1976, joined the full time staff in January this year on a two year contract, bringing the complement of full time staff in South Africa up to four.

Rhodesia

Mrs Cynthia Walker was appointed National Chairman at the annual Council in May 1978. Since then, Cynthia has travelled many miles by road — a very dangerous exercise in Rhodesia today — in her efforts to visit nearly all of the 26 branches. Cynthia also represented Toc H Rhodesia at South Africa's Council in September. A noticeable feature in nearly every branch in Rhodesia this year has been a sense of marking time and a general lack of zest for any kind of future planning — a reflection of the unsettled conditions in which they are living. The Headquarters of Toc H Rhodesia have moved from rented premises to Famona Hall, a Toc H property in the centre of Bulawayo. As well as providing the necessary office accommodation, Famona Hall is used for a variety of meetings, including the Young Wives Group started by Toc H early in 1976. The Senior Citizens Day Club now has a membership of over 300 and caters for all tastes, with an age range from mid-50s to 90s. Four years ago, Toc H Rhodesia accepted the



Photo: Tony Reade

Toc H Queensland — the altar of the new Guild Church

challenge to open Jacaranda House in Bulawayo to fill a desperate need in the community for accommodation for the elderly. There are at present 16 residents, and work is in hand to extend the building by the addition of eight more rooms. African volunteers at the Teacher Training College at Umtali continue to visit a probation home and elderly Africans. Here at Crutched Friars it was a joy to receive a Christmas card from the volunteers, containing some 71 signatures. One of the group — Leonard Mutete — has been appointed part time Field Worker for Toc H Rhodesia.

India

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the visit of our Director, Ken Prideaux-Brune, who in October, accompanied by Don Lockhart, spent nearly a month in India. Thanks to the careful planning of the India Committee, the two travellers were able to meet and talk with members representing nearly all the units in South India. They were much impressed with the friendly welcome they received everywhere they went. They attended and spoke at many guest nights, and were able to see something of the wide variety of jobs being undertaken by the branches. They also visited the Toc H Health Centre at Pannikampatti. The resident doctor, Dr Wason, and nurse are now attending a second clinic in an adjoining village. Using a rented building as a temporary base, the Health Centre has treated more than 3,000 patients since its opening a year ago.

The small isolated branches in the Argentine, Chile, Canada and France continue to make a valuable contribution in their own communities, working for hospitals, childrens' homes and with the elderly.

Although Toc H remains numerically small, the fellowship is the same the world over and the amount of work being carried out internationally is out of all proportion to the size of the Movement.



At the 1978 Dor Knap International Weekend, representatives were present from Australia, N Zealand, S Africa, Rhodesia, Chile, India, UK.

The Accounts

Accounts

Copies of the detailed accounts are available on request.

Deficit Reduced by £13,401

The deficit for the year was £104,464 compared with £117,865 (1978) and £122,056 (1977).

Regional Income and Expenditure

The income from members, builders and donations, together with tax recovered on Deeds of Covenant, exceeded the running cost of the Regions by £2,138 with the exception of staff salaries amounting to £132,904 met from central funds. Once again members have fulfilled their pledge.

The average assessment to the Family Purse has passed the £5 barrier. This was the amount that Toc H was challenged to find per head in 1969, so it has taken us 10 years to reach that target.

Total Income and Expenditure

	Expenditure £	Income from all sources £	Net cost to Family Purse £	Average contribution per member £
Mid-Eastern	25,261	13,182	12,079	6.00
North Eastern	13,719	7,155	6,564	6.94
N Wales & N West	28,575	9,142	19,433	4.89
Scotland	12,292	1,617	10,675	3.18
Southern	20,376	7,760	12,616	6.33
South Eastern	60,963	18,515	42,448	4.53
South Western	20,809	6,767	14,042	5.07
W Mids & S Wales	19,204	6,295	12,909	5.12
	201,199	70,433	130,766	5.26
National	151,031	244,287	(93,256)	—
Headquarters	66,954	—	66,954	—
	£419,184	£314,720	£104,464	£5.26
31 March 1978	£394,689	£276,824	£117,865	£4.98
An increase this year	£24,495	£37,896	—	Increase 5.62%
An improvement this year			£13,401	

Income

The total income was £314,720, an increase over last year of £37,896.

Investments

Our investments and bank interest income was £186,200, an increase of £31,572.

Regional Income

From all sources this increased by £2,215 to £70,433.

Questions

We will be pleased to receive any questions you may have on the accounts. It will be helpful if these are submitted before Central Council to allow time for a full answer to be prepared.

Unfortunately, £5 in 1979 is in no way worth £5 in 1969. With ever rising costs we will all have to seriously reassess our giving. The new challenge is one day's net pay to the Family Purse and one day's net pay to your branch activities.

The North East Region have come top of the league table again with their average giving which they have raised to £6.94 per head.

Legacies

The total received this year for the general funds amounted to £41,999 and the 10 years average transferred to the Income and Expenditure Account was £30,886. A new legacy leaflet was produced during the year — copies available from HQ. If you have friends or acquaintances who are solicitors or accountants why not obtain some copies of our leaflet and pass them on? Solicitors and accountants are often consulted by clients for advice on the disposal of their assets.

Expenditure

Expenditure was £419,184, an increase of £24,495.

During a year when inflation has continued, it is very pleasing to report that our increase in expenditure of £24,495 was a rise of only 6.21% over last year. The expenditure reflects a full year's savings at Wendover following the implementation of the recommendations of the O & M Report, and a reduction of staff in some of the Regions.

Salaries

The increase granted to the staff has been offset by the savings in personnel. The total cost of salaries, National Insurance contributions and pension provisions amounted to £228,031 – 54.40% of our total expenditure.

Pensioners

An increase of 10% was granted to all our existing pensioners.

Travelling Expenses

These – including depreciation on vehicles – have risen by £8,061 to £63,146, 15.06% of our total expenditure.

With recent increases in the price of petrol we must endeavour to find ways of economising on our travelling.

Training

In the year ended 31 March 1978 the Regional expenditure on training was £835. National expenditure for Dor Knap was £1,357. This year the Regions have

spent £1,306, the National training weekends cost £341 and the deficit on Dor Knap was £4,712. The increase in the deficit at Dor Knap was due to fewer school parties owing to the cut back on local government expenditure and cancelled weekends due to the terrible weather conditions in the last quarter of the financial year.

Overseas Expenses

The final payment of £3,000 was made to Australia and the income from the Ellison Chaplaincy was passed to South Africa.

Rents, Rates and Insurance

With the revision of charges levied on the staff who occupy our houses, the rates are now met from central funds. We have again revised the valuation for insurance on all our properties which resulted in higher premiums being paid.

Post and Telephone

These costs have risen by £2,152 to £16,643 (National and Headquarters by £295 and Regional costs by £1,857).

Reserve for Repairs

£8,200 is charged direct to the Income and Expenditure Account. £300 is charged to the Birmingham Centre, £500 to Croydon Centre, £500 to Dor Knap and £500 to Port Penrhyn. This makes a total annual provision of £10,000.

Reserve for Repairs – Marks

During the year a major electrical overhaul had to be carried out at Mark 4, Manchester, and the central funds had to find £5,000 towards this. The Marks are charged £15,000 pro rata of beds, making the total reserve for repairs this year £20,000.

Publicity

A saving of £3,666. Last year the brochure 'Patterns for People' was produced for the Regions and the cost was met from central funds.

Interest on Loans

At the end of the year loans from branches etc to the Family Purse amounted to £95,351, of which £39,063 has been invested through us on their behalf and the balance of £56,288 held in our funds. Interest at a ½% over the basic Building Society interest rates are paid to the branches – at present our rate of interest is 8½%. If your branch has any spare capital which is not immediately required, please lend it to the Family Purse.

Deficit on Publications

The deficit on 'Point Three' was £5,775 which was offset by a surplus on sales of other literature of £3,379, leaving a charge on the accounts of £2,396.

Grants

£11,450 included £2,400 towards the running expenses of Talbot House, Poperinge, £520 to All Hallows Church, £3,324 to the Services Fund (being half the cost of the Development Officer), £3,000 to South Africa and the non-recurring deficit on Mark 2 of £1,550.

Marks

1978 surplus £4,860. 1979 deficit £4,566. Mark 4, Manchester and Mark 20, Putney, produced a surplus. The remaining Marks had a deficit.

Centres

Croydon, Birmingham and Port Penrhyn all finished the year with an excess of income over expenditure.

Capital

Accumulated Fund

This has increased by £42,013.

	£	£	£
Fund at 31 March 1978			2,606,203
Add: Receipts in respect of completed developments		396	
Jubilee receipts in respect of Port Penrhyn		509	
Grant from Gwynedd County Council for Port Penrhyn		500	
Profit on sales of properties		133,959	135,364
Add: Legacies received		42,199	
Less: Earmarked for branches and other work	200		
Transfer to Income and Expenditure	30,886	31,086	11,113
			2,752,680
			104,464
Less: Net deficit for the year			£ 2,648,216

Investments

The market value of our investments at 31 March 1979 was £2,062,705, an increase in value over cost, after adjustments for new acquisitions of £261,898 + 14.70% (Equities + 22.20%, Fixed Interest + 2.70%).

Freehold Properties

Mark 2, St George's Square, London, Swindon, HBS studio and Scout Hall, and staff houses at Crawley and Sychdyn were sold during the year. No properties were purchased.

Leasehold Properties

No changes.

Motor Vehicles

Nine vehicles were replaced during the year. At 31 March 1979 there were 29 motor cars and 2 minibuses in the fleet.

Bank Deposit

The balance at the close of the year was £500,000.

Comment

We are pleased to report on a very satisfactory financial year in which we have been able to hold our increase in expenditure below the annual inflation rate. Our increase in income, due to a first class portfolio and higher rates of interest on bank deposit, has enabled us to cut the deficit for the second year running. We cannot be sure that high interest rates will continue and it is, therefore, up to each and every member to reassess his/her giving to the Family Purse.

Please ask yourself the following questions:

1. Have I reassessed my personal giving in line with inflation? Remember the suggestion of one day's net pay to the Family Purse and one day's net pay to your branch activities.
2. Why don't I sign a Deed of Covenant? (Only 2,677 members and builders have done so).
3. Have I made a bequest in my Will for Toc H?

Legacies

We are deeply grateful for the following legacies received during the year ended 31 March 1979:

	£
N W Barrett	25
Miss G C Bell	3,600
R L Bradley	25
A V Briant	201
Mrs O K Butler	200
J Callf	50
Mrs M Carlton	3
B Chatterton	250
W B Clague	11,045
Rev P T B Clayton	1,160
Miss E Coleman	25
Miss D M Cory	50
A W Egginson	100
Mrs F D Grant	311
Dr D G Greenfield	134
Miss H Hare	211
Mrs E M Heath	3,700
Mrs J A Lamb	13,557
C O Leadbitter	675
D D Michell	120
Miss F Miller	1,131
G R C Oliver	50
W M Osborne	25
P G E Pritchard	50
Mrs F E Pullen	1,140
G E C Ratsey	20
W Rule	3,250
Miss E M Savory	226
W R Sibbald	262
E Stafford	227
A Wainwright	55
J E Window	200
Miss I B Witcombe	121

£ 42,199

Services work

BAOR Clubs

The clubs have had a very successful trading year with a turnover of £1,119,397 and a net profit of £43,702.

Those of us who have the opportunity of visiting the clubs and seeing the goods which we sell, mostly of small money value, realise the vast volume of items that have to be handled to achieve this large turnover.

We sincerely thank Keith Rea, and all the BAOR staff for their work during the year.

	31 March 1979	DM @ 4 to the £	31 March 1978	DM @ 4 to the £
Sales	1,119,397	4,477,588	1,012,610	4,050,440
Purchases	780,496	3,121,984	720,022	2,880,088
Gross Profit	338,901	1,355,604	292,588	1,170,352
Trading overheads and welfare	288,551	1,154,204	292,328	1,169,312
Net Profit	50,350	201,400	260	1,040
Development Officer	6,648	26,592	7,282	29,128
	43,702	174,808	(7,022)	(28,088)
Ministry of Defence Zone Grant	—	—	21,966	87,864
Excess of Income over Expenditure	£43,702	£174,808	£14,944	£59,776

Administration expenses have been reduced mainly owing to a reduction of UK based staff, a saving in heat and light costs, and a reduction of repairs expenditure. Last year we had to meet high repairs and alteration costs at Munster. The clubs in the BAOR zone

(Munster, Paderborn, Verden and Wolfenbuttel) have produced an excess of income over expenditure. We do not, therefore, have to submit an application for grant to the Ministry of Defence this year.

Talbot House Young Seafarers' Residential Club

The Management Committee has continued to increase charges to the residents at regular intervals and has therefore kept ahead of inflation. The income for the year was £31,600, an increase, after making an adjustment against last year's accounts of £600 for a transfer from Repairs Reserve, of £5,093.

Having made a provision in the accounts of £1,500 towards future repairs and decorations, the expenditure of £31,111 was an increase of £4,029 over last year.

The house finished the year with an excess of income over expenditure of £489.

We are most grateful for the continued support of the King George's Fund for Sailors who increased their grant by £750 to £4,000.

To the Chairman, Treasurer and other members of the Management Committee together with staff and residents we say thank you for another good year's financial result.

Toc H Services Fund

	£	£
Balance at 31 March 1978		148,997
Add: Surplus on BAOR clubs	43,702	
Add: Surplus on THYSRC	489	
Add: Balance of MOD grant for previous year	7,124	
Add: Donations and grants for welfare work	4,193	
	55,508	
Less: 'Point Threes' for BP Tanker Fleet	216	55,292
Balance at 31 March 1979		£204,289

Gerry Ashfield *Honorary Treasurer*
George Barnett *Finance Secretary*

From the Director

Last year's Annual Report closed with the assertion that Toc H's prime purpose is 'the exploration of the spiritual dimension of life'. How does that statement relate to the fact that much time has been spent during the past year – and more will probably be spent during the coming year – in reflecting on the social implications of the micro-processor? That may at first sight seem like a venture into science fiction or a sell-out to materialism.

The revolution which is already taking place, however, poses fundamental questions about the nature of society because it gives us the chance, if we want to take it, of creating a different and far more human society than that bequeathed to us by the Industrial Revolution. The changes which have already begun to take place will be seen by many as threatening. The old familiar landmarks of the nine to five routine will apparently be swept away, to be replaced by the emptiness of having nothing to do. But vacuum packed boredom is not the only alternative. The silicon chip, like the atom, is in itself neutral. Human beings give it the capacity for good or for evil.

A positive response to these changes can only come from serious thought about the nature of society. What kind of contribution can we in Toc H make to that process? The most important contribution comes from the fact that, however inadequately, we are trying to discover a new quality of human relationships. We are fumbling towards an openness to one another, a recognition of the enrichment that can come from diversity.

'I met a group of people whose whole attitude to life and relation-

ships offered the beginnings of a different kind of society . . . Here was a pattern in which everyone had something to contribute, something to receive, everyone counted. There was a mutual openness and honesty. Barriers were lifted: people were free to acknowledge what they had been and what they wanted to be. And there was an openness to the world around – I had no sense of being in a closed club. The mutuality, the give and take, were to be extended and multiplied, demonstrated as the clue to what life was about.'

So writes Simon Barrington-Ward, the General Secretary of the Church Missionary Society. And what he says about a group of Christians in Germany describes the relationship that we are seeking in our branches and in our projects, in our Marks and on weekends at our conference centres. We often fall far short of this high ideal. We often content ourselves with surface friendship or create a cosy circle into which others find it impossible to break. Yet now and again, often when we are least expecting it, we catch a glimpse of what might be; and we know that the more human society which we seek is not just a dreamworld but is the purpose for which humanity was created. Love and forgiveness are realities.

Toc H is an often clumsy groping for these realities. And it is this groping that we have to offer to the changing world in which we live. A positive response to the silicon chip can come only through the recognition of the reality and the importance of the spiritual dimension of life.

Ken Prideaux-Brune
Director

The Officers of Toc H

**Headquarters, 1 Forest Close,
Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks**

Patrons

HM The Queen
HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

Vice-Patron

The Hon Angus Ogilvy

Presidents

The Archbishop of Canterbury
The Rev K G Bloxham BD
C A G Brownjohn
J Emmerson DCM JP
Sir William Gladstone
The Lord Maclean Bt KT KBE
The Very Rev The Lord MacLeod MC DD
J Lyndsay Orr BL
L G O Prideaux-Brune

Vice-Presidents

Rt Rev C K N Bardsley
Miss C Beazley
Mrs M Berry
A G Churcher
The Viscount Cobham KG
Col J A Davies
Robert Faulkner
I Fraser
Sir George Haynes CBE
Sir Frederick Hoare Bt
Arthur Lahaye
The Bishop of London
Wilfrid Lord
S J de Lotbiniere CVO
P Hugh B Lyon MC
Dr S F Mitchell
Lt Cdr George W Potter RN (retd)
Miss S Rowan-Hamilton
The Rt Rev C K Sansbury DD
The Rt Rev David S Sheppard
Miss E Twistington Higgins MBE
Mrs A E Whitfield

Trustees

Mrs N A Bloxham
Sir James Brown LLD
Sir Miles Clifford KBE CMG
Mrs A M Cook JP
Mrs B Cornick JP
G W U Liddle MBE

Chaplain

The Rev J H Hull

Hon Treasurer

G W Ashfield

Director

K Prideaux-Brune MA

General Secretary

G A Francis

The Central Executive Committee 1978-9

Chairman: Miss R M Radford
Hon Treasurer: G W Ashfield
Director: K Prideaux-Brune
Chaplain: The Rev J H Hull
General Secretary: G A Francis

J Blake
H O Brier
J C Cutt
Mrs M M Edwards
L T V Elphick
A I Frymann JP
J G Lewis
D E Lockhart
Mrs J Rauch
R Roberts MBE
R Stayman
Mrs E J Taylor
R Tindle

Headquarters staff as at 1 September 1979

Director: K Prideaux-Brune
Chaplain: Rev J H Hull
General Secretary: G A Francis
Headquarters Secretary: Miss J L Green
Finance Secretary: G E Barnett
Accountant: J B A Kirby
Communications Secretary:
F G Rice MA MA MBIM
Properties Secretary: J B Baverstock
International Secretary: Mrs G Lynn
42 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2AL
Winant & Clayton Secretary: J Rowley

Bankers:

Barclays Bank Ltd, 20 Aylesbury Road,
Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6JQ

Auditors: Hemsley Miller & Company

Hon Legal Advisers:

Herbert Oppenheimer, Nathan & Vandyk

Solicitors:

Ponsford & Devenish, Tivendale & Munday

Surveyors: Donaldson & Sons

Port Penrhyn Development Officer:

I Taylor

Old House Development Officer:

J H W Forbes

Regional staff as at 1 September 1979

Mid-Eastern Region: J A Biggerstaff,
Miss S Cumming, Mrs & Mrs A Robson,
Rev C M White

North Eastern Region: W W Bains,
A E Dudman

North Wales and North West Region:
A Daniels, C H Gibbs, J Waltham

Scottish Region: Mrs L Ayres,
G L Macrae

Southern Region: Miss E J Bacon,
H Buckle, Rev A G Knight, W Youngs
J Dickson

South Eastern Region: J Burgess, P East,
M J Giddings, R F Mills, Rev M B Perkins,
Rev C Rudd, Rev E Wallace

South Western Region: Rev K M Beck
T A R Gulliver, T W Sizer

West Midlands & South Wales Region:

Mr and Mrs D A Currant, G L Lee,
J E Mitchell, Mrs G Westwood

Service Clubs, BAOR

Commissioner: K R Rea DFM

Berlin: A Laing

Munster: J Conibeere

Paderborn: Mrs S E Turnbull

Verden: D Woodall

Wolfenbittel: H A Peyton-Bruhl

Development Officer: B Goldsworthy

Membership statistics to 31 March 1979*

	1977/8	1978/9
Members	11,796	11,293
New members	591	511
Builders	3,124	2,947
Branches	842	816
New branches	4	8
Branches closed	33	34
Groups	40	35

*(1) For the second year running, membership figures for this report were compiled from a physical count of records at 31 March. They can, therefore, be used (though with some caution!) in straight comparison with last year's figures.

*(2) It will be noted that membership is down by a net 503. (Four Regions increased their membership and four showed a decrease). Since the number of new members exceeded the number of deaths by well over 200, this represents the 'lapsing' during the year of some 750 members — getting on for one per branch. We believe that most of these are either 'lost' when they move from one part of the country to another or fail to be picked up as District members or builders when a branch closes.

*(3) Many members show great interest in the annual statistics of membership and at Wendover we are making every effort to keep them as accurate and up to date as we can. Any further improvement can only come from you. Please use the new Commendation Cards when they appear. Complete your branch rolls fully and send them in on time.